AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title as follows:

-- NEGATIVE ELECTRODE FOR ~~NON-AQUEOUS~~ NONAQUEOUS ~~ELECTROLYTE~~ SECONDARY ~~CELL~~ BATTERY, ~~AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURE THEREOF~~ PROCESS OF PRODUCING THE NEGATIVE ELECTRODE, AND ~~NON-AQUEOUS~~ NONAQUEOUS ~~ELECTROLYTE~~ SECONDARY ~~CELL~~ BATTERY

--

Please cancel the originally-filed Abstract of the Disclosure, and add the accompanying new Abstract of the Disclosure which appears on a separate sheet in the Appendix.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Figs. 3 and 4 represent different examples of the negative electrode in which the active material layer 3 is completely covered with the surface coating layer 4. In Figs. 3 and 4, the active material layer 3 formed on the current collector [[1]]2 that is copper, contains silicon-copper alloy particles, and the surface coating layer 4 that is copper is located on the active material layer 3. The active material layer 3 is completely covered with the surface coating layer 4. In the surface coating layer 4 are observable fine breaks extending in the thickness direction. Voids among alloy particles are observable in the active material layer 3. In Fig. 3, it is seen that part of the surface coating layer 4 goes into the active material layer 3 to such a degree that an alloy particle is surrounded with copper. In Fig. 4, on the other hand, the surface coating layer 4 is not so invasive into the active material layer 3, and the two layers 3 and 4 are defined

relatively clearly. Such a difference in layer geometry is ascribed to the process of producing the negative electrode.--

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 16 and 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Where the active material particles 7 are (f) the single silicon or single tin particles coated with a metal (hereinafter referred to as "metal-coated particles"), the coating metal is selected from the above-recited metals used in the particles (c) and (d), for example, copper (except Li). The amount of silicon or tin in the metal-coated particles is preferably 70% to 99.9% by weight, still preferably 80% to 99% by weight, particularly preferably ~~85 to 95~~ 85% to 95% by weight. The amount of the coating metal, such as copper, is preferably 0.1% to 30% by weight, still preferably 1% to 20% by weight, particularly preferably 5% to 15% by weight. The metal-coated particles can be prepared by, for example, electroless plating. In carrying out the electroless plating, a plating bath having silicon particles or tin particles suspended therein and containing a coating metal (e.g., copper) is prepared. The silicon particles or tin particles are electroless plated in the plating bath to deposit the coating metal on the surface of the silicon particles or tin particles. A preferred concentration of the silicon particles or tin particles in the plating bath is about 400 to 600 g/l. In electroless plating using copper as a coating metal, the plating bath preferably contains copper sulfate, Rochelle salt, etc. A preferred concentration of copper sulfate and that of Rochelle salt are 6 to 9 g/l and 70 to 90 g/l, respectively, from the viewpoint of plating rate control. From the same viewpoint, the plating bath preferably has a pH of 12 to 13 and a temperature of 20 to 30°C. The plating bath contains a reducing agent, such as formaldehyde, in a concentration of about 15 to 30 cc/l. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 36, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A nonaqueous secondary battery was assembled using each of the negative electrodes prepared in Examples and Comparative Examples as follows. The battery was evaluated in irreversible capacity, capacity density per ~~unit volume~~ unit weight when charged, charge/discharge efficiency in the 10th cycle, and capacity retention in the 50th cycle in accordance with the following methods. The results of evaluation are shown in Table 1-1. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 42, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Performance evaluation:

Nonaqueous secondary batteries were assembled using each of the negative electrodes prepared in Examples and Comparative Examples in the same manner as described supra. The battery was evaluated in irreversible capacity, capacity density per ~~unit volume~~ unit weight when charged, charge/discharge efficiency in the 10th cycle, and capacity retention in the 50th cycle in accordance with the methods described supra. The results of evaluation are shown in Tables 2-1 to 2-3--

Please replace the table "2-3 (cont'd.)" on page 47 with the following rewritten table:

TABLE 2-3 (cont'd.)

Example No.	Coating Layer		Negative electrode Active Material			Irreversible Capacity (%)	Capacity Density (mAh/g)	Charge/ Discharge Efficiency at 10th Cycle (%)	Capacity Retention at 50th Cycle (%)
	Thickness (μm)	Plating Material	Particle Size D_{50} (μm)	Content in Coating Layer (wt%)	Material (Kind of Active Material)*1				
2-47	20	Cu	2	70	[Sn75/Cu25]80+Cu20 (mixed powder)	5	600	99.9	93
2-48	20	Cu	2	70	[Sn75/Cu25]60+Cu40 (mixed powder)	5	450	99.9	94
2-49	20	Cu	2	70	Sn80/Cu20 (electroless plating)	5	790	99.9	99
2-50	20	Cu	2	70	Sn95/Cu5 (electroless Plating)	5	910	99.9	98
2-51	20	Cu	2	70	Sn99/Cu1 (electroless Plating)	6	930	99.9	96
2-52	20	Cu	2	70	Sn99/Ni1 (electroless plating)	11	900	99.9	96
2-53	20	Cu	2	70	~~Sn99.5/Ni0.05~~ Sn99.5/Ni0.5 (electroless plating)	7	930	99.9	95
Comp. Ex. 2-1	no plating		5	80	pure Sn	20	950	95.0	7

1: Figures indicate % by weight

5

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 48, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- As is apparent from the results shown in Tables 2-1 to 2-3, the secondary batteries using the negative electrodes obtained in Examples retain the same levels of irreversible capacity, charge/discharge efficiency and capacity ~~retention~~ density as the comparative secondary battery using the comparative negative electrode and also have extremely higher capacity ~~density~~ retention than the comparative battery. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 51, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A nonaqueous secondary battery was assembled using ~~each of~~ the negative electrodes prepared in Examples ~~and Comparative Examples~~ in the same manner as described supra. The battery was evaluated in irreversible capacity, capacity density per ~~unit volume~~ unit weight when charged, charge/discharge efficiency in the 10th cycle, and capacity retention in the 50th cycle in accordance with the methods described supra. The results of evaluation are shown in Tables 3-1 through 3-3. --

Please replace the table "3-2" on page 53 with the following rewritten table:

TABLE 3-2

Example No.	Active Material Structure							Irreversible Capacity (%)	Capacity Density (mAh/g)	Charge/ Discharge Efficiency at 10th Cycle (%)	Capacity Retention in 50th Cycle (%)
	Thickness (μm)	Surface Coating Layer		Si-based Active Material Layer							
		Thickness (μm)	Material	Thickness (μm)	Size D_{50} (μm)	Content in Structure (wt%)	Material				
3-14	30	5	Cu	25	5	38	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.7	99
3-15	30	5	Cu	25	0.8	38	Si80/Cu20	8	3200	99.9	100
3-16	30	5	Cu	25	10	38	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.7	96
3-17	30	5	Cu	25	20	38	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.6	95
3-18	30	5	Cu	25	5	10	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.8	99
3-19	30	5	Cu	25	5	20	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.7	99
3-20	5	1	Cu	4	1	38	Si80/Cu20	8	3200	99.8	99
3-21	10	2	Cu	8	5	38	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.7	99
3-22	15	3	Cu	12	5	38	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.7	99
3-23	20	4	Cu	16	5	38	Si80/Cu20	7	3200	99.7	99
3-24	30	5	Cu	25	5	37	Si90/Cu10	8	3600	99.7	98
3-25	30	5	Cu	25	5	36	Si95/Cu5	8	3600	99.7	98
3-26	30	5	Cu	25	5	36	Si95/Ni5	9	3500	99.7	98
3-27	30	5	Cu	25	5	35	Si80/Cu20	5	3200	99.7	99
3-28	30	5	Cu	25	5	35	Si80/Cu20	5	3800	99.7	99
3-29	30	5	Cu	25	5	35	Si99/Cu1	6	3900	99.7	99
3-30	30	5	Cu	25	5	35	Si99/Ni1	11	3900	99.7	99
3-31	30	5	Cu	25	5	35	~~Si99.5/Ni0.05~~ Si99.5/Ni0.5	7	4000	99.7	99

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 55, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- As is apparent from the results shown in Tables 3-1 to 3-3, the secondary batteries using the negative electrodes obtained in Examples ~~retain the same levels of irreversible capacity, charge/discharge efficiency and capacity retention as the comparative secondary batteries using the comparative negative electrodes and also have extremely higher capacity density than the comparative batteries~~ can exhibit extremely high irreversible capacity, charge/discharge efficiency, capacity retention and capacity density. --